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THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1918.

Baker in France.

The visit of Secretary of War Baker to France pheady is an assured success.

There are only a few Americans who would fail gain inspiration from an intimate view of the reach in this great hour of their history, and Newton D. Baker is not one of them. If he does not bring back with him a message for us, as well as a message for himself and his department, we disappointed in him.

But he will bring back such a message. A trip to the firing line will lift him utterly out of the olitical impulses he has shown from time to time in meeting criticism of his work as War Secretary. It probably will make him a real fighting Secretary of War, and he will wonder hereafter how pacifist philosophy ever established any hold upon him in his earlier career.

For the French, the visit should be effective in showing them how the American people are attacking the unprecedented task before them. After all, war is simply a vast business, and the United States is tackling it as a business proposition, as it is forced to do. We know of no one who gives a more sharply etched impression of business efficiency in action than Newton D. Baker; he will impress the French far more deeply than the older type of our captains of industry-the men who judged of the efficiency of energy largely by the noise and flourish it succeeded in producing.

The Secretary of War has been in Paris, and should visit London before making his return journey. His experience will not be complete unless he gets in touch with the military leaders of Britain as well as France. Field Marshal Haig, Gen. Sir Henry Wilson, Gen. Smuts and the other powers in the British war office should know him. He is the kind of man who will inspire confidence abroad. Lieut. Gen. Bridges, who was the military representative on the Balfour mission that visited Washington last May, is one of his firmest friends, and has blazed his reputation in London. A visit there will be an excellent piece of diplomacy.

Since the war broke out the United States has seen represented in Europe more by its idealistic international policy than by its vaunted industrial and economic efficiency. It has taken Americans nearly a year to grasp the fact that there is no escape from the primary necessity of beating Germany by force of arms. Mr. Baker's trip across the Atlantic should settle all lingering doubts in his own mind about that fact, and it should settle all doubts that our allies may have held as to the real power behind the surface of our promises.

News.

It is due the American people that they be given some succinct and tangible description of the front that our troops are holding in France at the earliest possible moment.

A background for the exceedingly interesting cables that are arriving from the Lorraine and Chemin-des-Dames sectors are needed. We lack trench raids and kindred operations which broke into the headlines yesterday. A perspective on the whole situation should be gained. At the present time the newspapers and the public can be made to look foolish through dropsical expansion of molehills into mountains and through the confusion of the significant with the insignificant.

Nothing will excite sharper resentment from the public than a continuous stream of schoolboy excitement over minor operations camouflaged by press-agent exploitation into operations of moment. We are in France on a serious mission, and an overdose of military melodrama, with crudely colored scenic effects in place of the real thing will have the worst possible influence on public opinion. It is quite harmless in these days of the beginnings of operations; but should our first thrill establish a tradition of systematic news inflation, encouraged by the censors in lieu of the real facts, it will lead to one of those "psychological" crises which have harassed the administration more than once before.

In other words, there is no substitute "just as good" for the facts. Adulteration of news from France is a danger which there is no need of incurring. The censorship should not lean backward on essentials nor lurch forward on misleading nonessentials. The presence of Secretary of War Baker in France should mean the establishment of the most liberal censorship policy compatible with military safety and prudence.

Beginnings of Language.

Prof. Tom G. Knott, department of English literature. Chicago University, figures out that "poohpooh" was one of the first human words, because expressing emotion; and "bow-wow" another, because man originally named animals after the noises they made.

We don't much care, and certainly aren't going to tackle Prof. Knott or any other professor of literature, but it doesn't seem reasonable.

If Adam, when scraped together from the dust of the earth and first stood up on his legs, said "pooh-pooh!" he ought to have been clouted. We don't mean to insinuate that he never learned "poohpooh." Eve came along, pretty soon, and it's probable that Adam could pick a "pooh-pooh" off any bush in the whole garden. But here he was-street sweepings one minute, all humanity the next. He was an original, unprecedented, unrivaled work, and it is most probable that his first expression of emotion was "Fine!" "Bully!" or something else equally appreciative of the facts. Assuredly "pooh-pooh" came to him, but later; there never has been a man who hadn't some "pooh-

pooh" in him, However, we're decidedly agreeable toward Prof. Knott's proposition that early man named the aniials after their noises and got "bow-wow" quick. Those early men had some sense in naming the

the noises that they themselves make. "Bow-wow," said Father Adam. "Diplocorpus Comegetatus," say the modern fathers of language, and so on, until you've got to wear a dictionary to be able to tell the proper name of a hen from that of a horned

as to man's first words. There was con talking, but Adam seems to have known enough talking, but Adam seems to have known enough to keep his mouth shut, even before his marriage. He is reported to have named the beasts. Maybe he did name the dog "how-wow," and the tom-cat "Mariah," and the sheep "ha-a-a," the burro something appropriate, and so forth, but we must gag on the proposition that he looked around on all the splendid arrangements that had been made for hin and said "pooh-pooh!"

Her All As Needed.

Her boy is in the army, her heart is with him and it beats proudly. She takes her patriotism as women usually do, in no broken doses. When she gives, she gives all.

Mrs. Emma Brantley, of McAdoo, Tex., is her name and address. Not long ago she received from the Treasury Department two checks for \$70, representing the allotment made to her from his pay by her boy, Warren, the amount which the government adds to every allotment. Inclosing the check to its senders she wrote this letter;

January 30, 1918.

Treasury War Risk Insurance, Washington, D. C.

I will state that I don't need any allowance at present, and don't want to take anything from the government that it needs in a time like what we have got to face.

EMMA BRANTLEY. McAdoo, Tex. And Berlin says that Americans are just bluffing!

That the people are not interested in their government's war. Here is the letter Mrs. Brantley received in reply;

Washington, Feb. 11, 1918. Dear Mrs. Brantley:

I have your letter of January 30, with which you returned allowance and allotment checks for November and December totaling \$70, sent you by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance of the Treasury Department. You have evidenced a splendid spirit of patriotism in sending this money back to the government, but since it legally belongs to you I assure you that you need feel no hesitancy in accepting it. I therefore return the checks to you. Should you desire to place the money at the disposal of the government I would suggest that you invest it either in a liberty bond or war savings certifi-Sincerely yours,

W. G. McADOO.

Making Public Ice.

Just a vagrant thought to puzzle over when you've nothing else to do these days.

Out at Omaha the ice season will be inaugurated with the completion of a municipal ice plant designed to bring down the price of the product, and which, in fact, in its very anticipation, compelled the ice combine there to lower its prices.

Omaha procured this at the hands of the State legislature-Omaha's charter being a State-given affair-and while she had her own representatives on the floor to champion the reform, most of the home members were responsive to other interests and voted the other way. And there was no politics in it, either. Fact is,

Senator Hitchcock's newspaper pulled the Democratic legislators and the governor into line for it, while Republicans were brought to its support by the national committeeman of that party. So there are ways of doing things, even in

States where some cities do not have their own form of government. Wonder what the effect would be if some one in Congress proposed a municipal ice plant for the District?

Let's begin thinking about some of these things. The day is coming when they'll be more than dreams. Retain this in your memory

The Coward's Duty.

When a man walks out of a blind alley and hits you on the head with a lead pipe, if you regain consciousness, you will probably thank him; that is, if you reflect that 14,500 other human beings had their lives taken by the highwaymen that lurk under the seas. Is there anything more cowardly than to kill

without giving your adversary a fighting chance? Even a gas attack finds men prepared for the sacrifice. Shell and shrapnel enact their toll, but you are giving and taking the same chances as your enemy. Air raiders even give you time to seek shelter; but the submarine hits without warning and kills without pity.

There is no excuse for reprisals; but when romen and children are the chief victims we find it hard to withhold the same treatment for the murderous Huns. Brave men go down in boats to do a coward's duty. The pity is that men of unquestioned bravery should be put to such ignoble use in war. It is horrible to even think of the tragedies enacted by the submarine; but it is helpful to know that when the war is over there will be no such

Not Hard to Do.

The conversation in the lobby of a Washington hotel turned to the subject of efficiency, when this happy little incident was related by Senator George Sutherland, of Utah:

Sutherland, of Utah;
One evening a young man attended a circus, where one of the big features of the show was a beautiful lion tamer. Entering the ring, followed by the lion, the fair charmer placed a lump of sugar between her lips, which the king of the forest took from her with his teeth. Instantly the youth sat

from her with his teeth. Instantly the youth sat up and began to take notice.

"Great stunt, all right," he enthusiastically shouted to the performer, "but I can do it, too!"

"Of course," scornfully replied the pretty performer, who didn't like having her act minimized, "but do you really think you can?"

"Most assuredly," was the prompt rejoinder of the young man, "just as well as the lion."—Philadelphia Evening Telegraph.

When the Transports Sail.

The ships move out of the icy bay And a group of women watch them go. Our eyes are salt as the blowing spray, But we smile with hearts that glow. Why should our eyes be brimming so? What fight have our hearts to that fire divine? There's never a soldier sails today That is hers-or hers-or mine.

Of a ring that never was worn, By the right of a lad in his springtime dead, And a boy that never was born, O mothers of sons who sail this morn, We are praying them out to sea—
Your children, that God might have given instead
To her—to her—to me.

—By Amelia Josephine Burr, in the Outlook

By the right of farewells that can never be said,

THE BLASTED RATS JUST GROW FAT ON IT



HEARD UNDER THE DOME

We need a commission to go to Japan. The trip should be taken early and the commission should be composed of the best men of the nation, enough to represent all the interests of the Oriental nation.

This is the consensus of opinion among leaders of Congress. True, not many members have given the affair thought—and some of those who yield to the suggestion above are unwilling to see the step taken unless the President is for it—but there are signs that the problem will be put up shortly in such a way that this action cannot

way, but particularly the Ishii call made last summer when the war needs of the nations were gone over and when the call had more than or-dinary significance.

The attitude of the government on the curtailment of industry during the war period, has bever been made known. There are many ideas and parts of ideas which have been given out on the subject but we are indebt-ed to George N. Peek, of the industries board, for a view which while labeled

ly what we are seeking.

Every newspaper and every agent of publicity should be utilized in the of publicity should be utilized in the nation to display some of this to pub-lic gaze. We quote just enough of it to give a better understanding of some of the acts we have recently heard discussed. As made known yeserday to Congress this statement fol-

ows:
"The discussion of the limitation 'nonessential' industries'' very unfortunate misuse of words. The idea, as exploited in the newspapers, that the government in-tended to cut off 'nonessential' in-dustries, had in it possibilities for disster.
"All industries are closely inter-

related. For instance, certain so-called 'nonessentials' may be sent to South America to pay for commodities absolutely needed for essential products and no large class can be arbitrarily cut off without seriously affecting general business conditions in the country. Certainly no industry is 'nonessential' to the workmen and capital employed therein, and when one considers that over 20,000,000 peo-ple and \$30,000,000,000 of capital are employed by 'nonwar' industries, the need of caution in dealing with this roblem is manifest.
"On the other hand, our industrial

equipment is limited. We do not have equipment is limited. We do not have materials, machinery, transportation, labor or capital sufficient for fighting the great war and for normal busi-ness at the same time. The war must be prosecuted to the utmost and busi-ness must shrink to provide the neces-sary equipment with the least possi-ble injury to the business of the coun-try.

"The first consideration of the Nation and all of its industries must be to contribute the utmost toward winning the war, and to that end business must, where necessary, be diverted from its established channels; or if absolutely necessary, the flow must, during the war, be entirely stopped in order to provide adequate labor and material for war needs. It does not, however, follow that there will be less business than usual, but rather more unusual husiness. winning the war, and to that end

business.
"If the so-called 'non-essential' industries are 'cult off' many of them would be ruined and others permanently crippied.
"The Commercial Economy Board of the Council of National Defense has undertaken to co-porate with

has undertaken to co-operate with business men in eliminating, as the government's requirements demand, needless uses of men, materials, equipment, and capital in all lines of commercial business; in other words, to conserve commercial resources as necessary to meet the government's need government's need.
"The board's policy is to work forehandedly. It investigates forth-

coming supplies and demands, to see where shortage is threatened; then introduces such economies as

A LINE O' CHEER EACH DAY O' THE YEAR

THE SHIP.

I little care for things that buffet me. No more than ships that ride the And sail pestering of angry wind and

wave, For I'm a ship upon the seas of life, And must sail onward through the

will prevent the shortage, or keep

Members of Congress, seeing the gone in giving powers to the executive and in enunciating certain hitherto radically regarded principles, wonder if similar ends will be sought in the legislatures of the land. There is some cause for their inquiry. The population appears to be patient observers of the grant of these extra powers, and it would not be extraordinary if some ambitious State solons tried to make capital out of the public state of mind. There are few State legislatures meet in regular assision during the coming four months but there are complete coming four months but there are coming four months with the appearance of facility paid for manies and find any prese coming four months but there are they say, but not at all gaudy, numerous bodies which will meet. The smell of high-priced p tries board, for a view which while esting to see what their proposals pleasant relief from the caged subway labeled "unofficial" still s m a c ks enough of officialdom to be very near-with their parent body, the Congress He turned! of the United States.

"Who hath influence with the President?" It was a query on the hill from a bright, successful bustness man from thousands of miles away, but a man who is now beginning to see what Washington means to even him. We heard a membe of Congress name the influentia of them, the member said. McAdoo was the first, House the second, and page. McAdoo the other ten.
THE OBSERVER.

Log-Chain Principle Used for Creeper Tread.

One of the interesting features of sturdy farm tractor of recent development is its creeper tread, which is built on the old log-chain principl says the March Popular Mechanic a capacity for hard use, it has the advantage of being easily repaired. Each link and grouser plate may be detached and replaced quickly, if necessary. The tractor mounts a four cylinder engine that employs a kero sene-gasoline mixture for fuel an velops 52-brake horsepower. It handle a four-share plow with ease.

OPHELIA'S SLATE.





tired passengers cast their gaze upon a youth of some twenty odd years, clad in robes of the highest quality. He wore a cravat that indicated its belief that it should be heard as well as

Special correspondent of the Washington Herald.

that it should be heard as well as seen.
On his glistening patent leathers he NEARLY 40 BILLION lengths to which their body has wore those much insulted and mim-gone in giving powers to the ex-icked, but still considerably in vogue

numerous bodies which will meet the smell of high-priced pomade in special session. It will be inter-

He observed the admiring gaze of a poorly clad young man who stood with his mouth wide open. Then he Then-

The etymological horror of it all!

"Say, feller, youse ain't got no match on youse, have youse? I'm gittin' out at the next station and I want to light me torch." There were twelve shuddered, passed out the match and man addressed turned with loathing to the sport

And, speaking of clothes. In the days

many. The other day a Fifth avenue silk shirts with collars for the summer season.

This same man has seven dress MILLERS' PROFITS

suits, nine dinner coats and buys forty-two suits at one time. He has not, it seems, become conscious that nations are at war. Martin Beck, who hires actors-and

fires them, too-for vaudeville pur-poses, believes that actors like to suf-fer. In fact, he says they must suf-fer. And those who enjoy seeing see-ing actors suffer can see them in the act of suffering at any theatrical boarding house on Saturday night. ck's theory that suffering is a part of the actor interest are not considered to the Food Administration regulations as to profits, particularly in the sale of foods.

The Food Administrator and the Millers' Committee consider that the patriotic efforts of the great

He has that something in him which delights in tribulations and he is constantly thinking about them. Get a group of actors together—and I have seen them together frequently—and the topic of conversation is always hard luck. They seem to delight in telling hard-luck stories, of unpaid rent, of tank blow-ups, hitting the ties and failing to get back salary.

Almost any actor would rather appear in a dozen failures account of the milling industry under the regulations.

President Wilson has approved the patriotic efforts of the great the patriotic efforts of the majority of the milling trade in support of the milling the war should not be brought into discrete the action of a minority.

The Miller's Committee has, therefore, asked that a complete inquiry should be made into the conduct of the milling industry under the regulations. strike. He has been glooming around

SIAM GETS INTO THE WAR.

ALKS AND TALKS JOHN D. BARRY

MEMORIES OF VENICE

My membories of Venice are amo clated with the quaint old guide that I met on my first morning there as I stood in front of St. Mark's and marveled that it should be so like the picturer and that the flock of tame pictones and that the flock of tame pictones and that the flock of tame pictones, celebrated in Venetian history and literature, should still be there. My green absorption must have made it easy for him to spot me as a visitor. He came forward and in language that he fondly believed to be English he offered his services. Day after day for several hours a day we roamed about together, understanding each other fairly well in spite of the confusion of tongues. His rich Italian account unnistakably Cockney. When I asked him where he had acquired this spoech, he said he had been a sailor for two years on a British halp, Oh, that was long ago, so long, in fact, that I could see he felt as if it unfits have been in another life. On that ship had devised a language of his own and for more than thirty years he had made it serve him in his native Venice, evidently a hardything capable of resisting the influence of travelers from English-speaking countries.

He did not ask me where I has acquired my way of speaking; but he delicately conveyed that, to his ears, it had a very peculiar soond. When I capitained that I was a she to see many parts of the city in his native Venice, evidently a hardything capable of resisting the influence of travelers from English-speaking countries.

He did not ask me where I have been an allong the two produces and the had been as acquired my way of speaking; but he delicately conveyed that, to his ears, it had a very peculiar soond. When I have been a many parts of the city is a transmitted that he delicately conveyed the two produces and the language of his had been on the constant of the serve it had been on the produce of the period of the sense of the own of the sense of the produce of the period of the perio

great Italian actress, Eleonora Duse, walking along one of the narrow streets near her home, simply dressed and heavily veiled, the great sad eyes, dark and luminous, alone characteristic of the resplendent creature I had

Where that little man acquired his knowledge of art I never found out. I doubt if he knew himself. He must have breathed it in. But he had a really extraordinary appreciation of the treasures within the walls of those palaces and churches that made the interiors even more wanderful. the interiors even more wonderful than the exteriors. It was not the than the exteriors. It was not the mere jargon of art that he spoke, made up of phrases caught from other guides or from visiting art experts; it showed a spiritual relation with the minds behind the work, a sympathetic understanding. This retired sailor was a little brother to the great painters and decorators and architects that had contributed to the glory of Venice. The glory shed a radiance on his humble life, He fairly basked in it and he was never so happy as when and he was never so happy as when spumy strife,
And if I'm staunch, and hold my courses clear
I know I'll find at last the Ports of Cheer:

(Copyright, 198.)

| Speak of respondent of the washington Herald, and he was never so happy as when he could find some trave-er like inyself to illuminate by reflection. That he made many mistakes of fact, that, his criticisms were often technically home-going Manhattanese. Several tired passengers coast their great and he was never so happy as when he could find some trave-er like inyself. but he had something in his blithe spirit denied to most professional guides, something that made him a

feet in the United States in 1917 is the TAX Service, based on incomplete reports Belasco-Friday Mat., 50° to \$1.50 received up to February 26. About N. Y. WINTER GARDEN SHOW, the Forest Service and the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association had at that time made reports. Because of the need of an accurate cendemands for lumber, officials in charge of the work are urging delinquen ported cut of 845 identical sawmills

each of which cut five million feet or more lumber in either 1917 or the pre-ceding year. The reports of these mills indicate that in nine States there was an increase in production and in the rest of the country a decrease. The largest increase was in Missouri where the gain over the 1916 cut was almost 44 per cent. In the And, speaking of clothes, in the days about 10 per cent. Wisconsin and when Berry Wall, Broadway's fash- Michigan, in the North, and Washingion plate, thrilled the Rialto with his ton and Oregon, in the Northwes 365 suits of clothes—a suit for every were the only other states in which 365 suits of clothes—a suit for every were the only other states in which they in the year—he was the subject the cut increased. North Carolina. For many Sunday stories about his showed the greatest falling off in wardrobe.
But a Berry Wall today would not draw a two-line notice in the pregation and the word of the with even 400 suits of clothes are not pientiful, but several have that tages of decrease, with an a first state of 2 per cent. cent, showed the greatest falling off other States indicate varying percentages of decrease, with an average

SUBJECT OF INQUIRY

Committee to Delve Into Failure to Conform to Hoover's Rules.

The Food Administrator has been for some days in a conference with the Millers' Committee with regard to complaints from certain se that certain millers have not con-formed to the Food Administration

Almost any actor would rather appear in a dozen failures a season than in one success. Just recently one are tor, down on his luck, made a lucky of & committee for this purpose ever since. He cannot tell of any Dr. Taussig will have associated with him a representative of the better.

• Federal Trade Commission, a member of the Food Administration representative miller, and a repre-sentative producer. The Food Ad-ministrator is also referring to the A contingent of rifles of the Siamese army will shortly leave for Europe to join the war on the side of the allies. Other branches of the army are eager to fight the Germans. The poorpie of Siam are also called upon to able to reconsider before next seambscribe to a war fund.

AMUSEMENTS.

GODOWSKY RECITAL MARCH 22 rices \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.

DOING OUR BIT With FRANK TINNEY. Henry Lewis, James J. Corbett, Ada Lewis and 150 Others.

Tenight, #-15. Madinee Ties. Miller Ties. and Set. 1,200 Seata at Ek MUSICAL COMEDY PLAYERS GERS, DANCERS, COMEDIANS THE MAYOR OF TOKIO Also Special Engagement of "THE FIGITAMA FOUR" Prices. Sc. 80c, 78c, 41.00. No War To

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MATS GARDEN EVES. TODAY-LAST TIME VIOLET MERSEREAT "MORGAN'S RAIDERS.

PLAZA Mela . 10-true -let -let TODAY-LAST TIME PEGGY HELAND In "THE OTHER WOMAN"

LOEW'S COLUMBIA Continuous 10:20 A. M. to 11 P. M. Morn, Aft., 10c, 13c, Nighta, 20c, 13c,

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS in "Headin' South"